

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A process of preparing finasteride Form I, which process comprises dissolving finasteride in a solvent, replacing the solvent partially or substantially completely with a non- solvent and thereafter isolating finasteride Form I.
2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein replacement of said solvent comprises distilling off said solvent followed by addition of said non-solvent.
3. (Original) A process of preparing finasteride Form I, which process comprises the steps of: (i) dissolving finasteride in a solvent to form a solution; (ii) distilling off the solvent from the solution obtained in step (i); (iii) adding a non-solvent to the product of step (ii); and (iv) isolating finasteride Form I.
4. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 3]], wherein said solvent is methanol or dichloromethane.
5. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 4]], wherein dissolution of said finasteride in said solvent is carried out at a temperature in the range of ambient to reflux.
6. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 5]], wherein a finasteride solution obtained further to addition of finasteride to said solvent is clarified using decolourising agents.
7. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 [[to 6]], wherein said non-solvent is water.

8. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 ~~[[to 6]]~~, wherein said non-solvent is an organic solvent in which the solubility of finasteride is not more than about 5% w/v.

9. (Original) A process according to claim 8, wherein said organic non-solvent is selected from the group consisting of hexane, heptane, octane, toluene, xylene, isobutyl acetate and isopropyl acetate.

10. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1, ~~to 9, which further comprising a~~ ~~comprises~~ distillation step following the replacement step ~~addition of said non-solvent.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 2, ~~1 to 10, which further comprising~~ ~~comprises~~ stirring a precipitated product obtained following the replacement step ~~further to addition of said non-solvent so as to obtain finasteride Form I.~~

12. (Original) A process of preparing finasteride Form I, which process comprises dissolving finasteride in a solvent, replacing the solvent partially or substantially completely with a non-solvent, stirring a precipitated product obtained further to addition of the non-solvent and thereafter isolating finasteride Form I.

13. (Currently Amended) Finasteride Form I prepared by a process according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 1 ~~[[to 12]]~~.

14. (Original) Finasteride Form I having a purity of at least about 99.6% w/w.

15. (Original) Finasteride Form I according to claim 14 having a purity of at least about 99.7% w/w.

16. (Original) Finasteride Form I according to claim 14 having a purity of at least about 99.8% w/w.

17. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of finasteride Form I according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 13 [[to 16]], together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents or excipients therefor.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting 5-alpha reductase in an individual, comprising administering finasteride Form I according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 13 to 16, for use in therapy.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting 5-alpha reductase in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to said patient an effective inhibitory amount of finasteride Form I according to claim 14 ~~any of claims 13 to 16~~.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a medicament for inhibiting 5-alpha reductase comprising adding finasteride Form I according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 13 to 16, for use in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting 5-alpha reductase.